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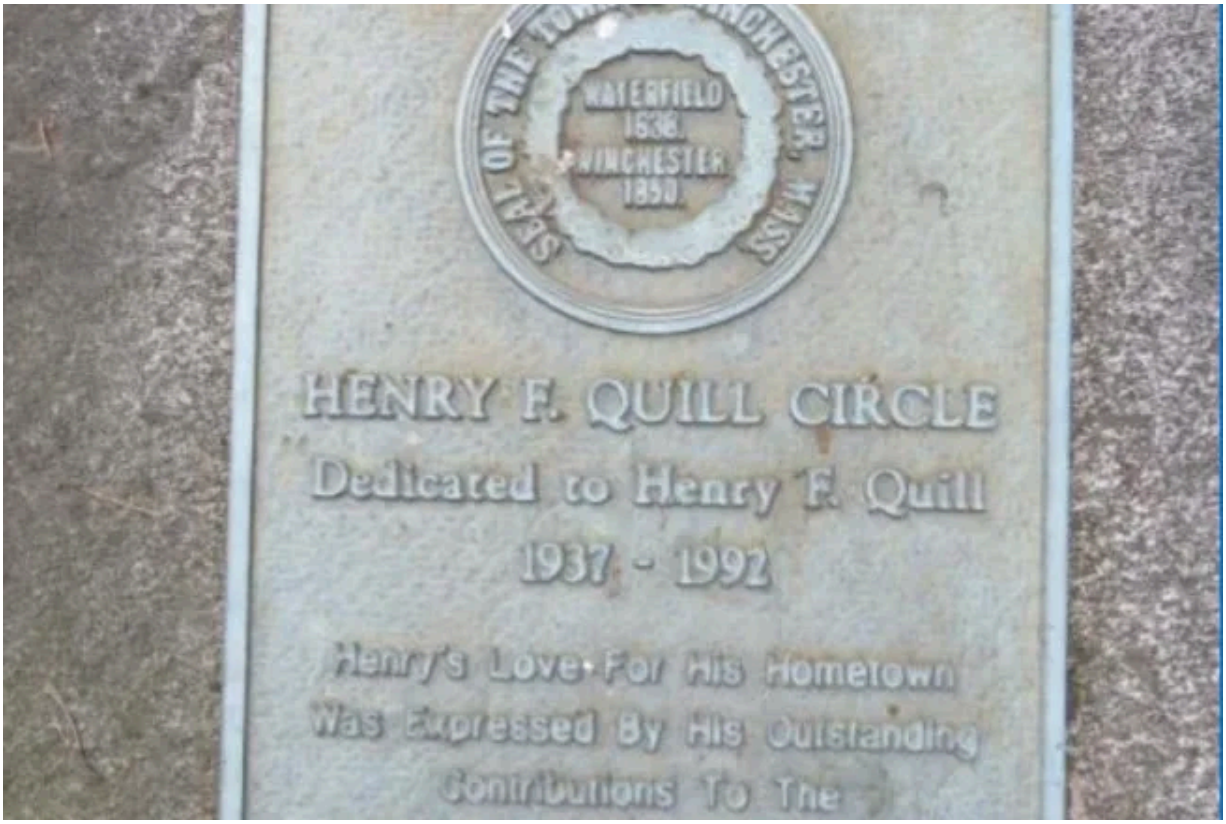
NEWS

READER QUESTION: Who is the Quill Rotary named after?

NELL ESCOBAR COAKLEY | STAFF WRITER

February 17, 2025 . 5:08 PM — 2 min read



A plaque marks the Henry F. Quill Jr. Circle in downtown Winchester, commonly known as the rotary.
COURTESY PHOTO/WINCHESTER ARCHIVAL CENTER

When the MBTA recently made an announcement that it would h
the Quill Rotary in downtown Winchester to make repairs to the s

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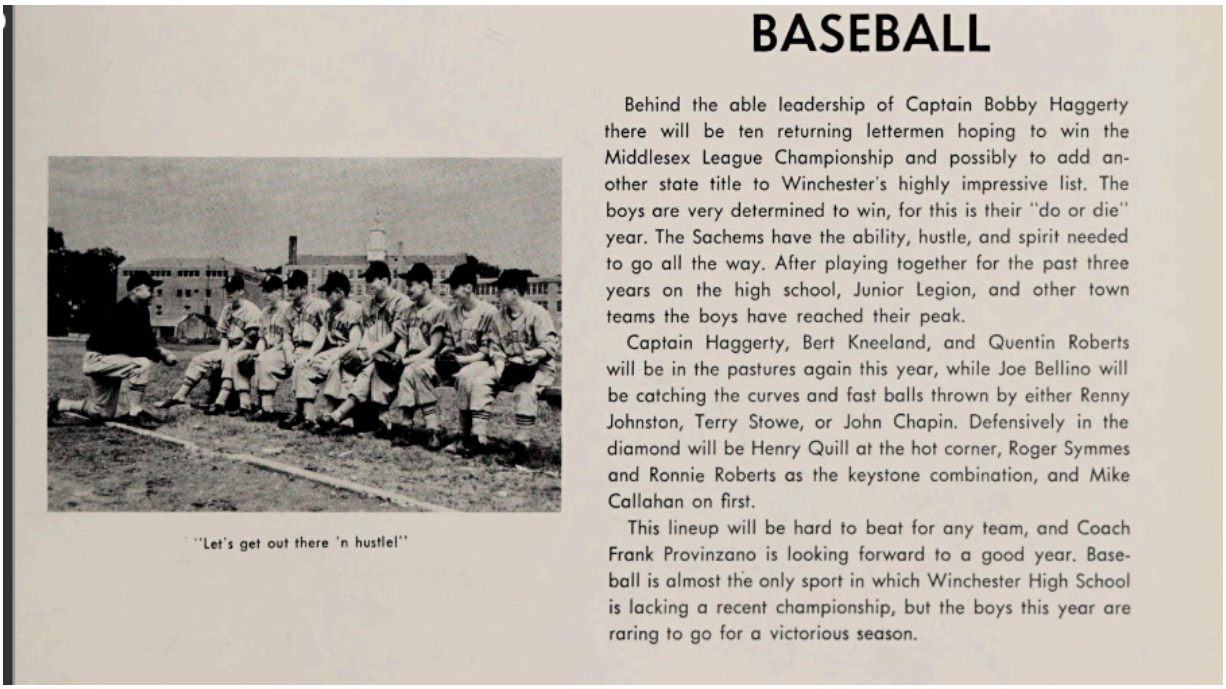
our readers couldn't get over the fact that the town landmark had a name.

"Living in town and in the area for almost 65 years, I never knew that the rotary downtown had a name!!!" one resident posted on the Winchester Residents Facebook Page.

Well, it does. And we're here to tell you who that person is.

The rotary in downtown Winchester, where Main, Mount Vernon and Church streets and Shore Road intersect is named after Henry F. Quill Jr., a native of the town.



"Let's get out there 'n hustle!"

BASEBALL

Behind the able leadership of Captain Bobby Haggerty there will be ten returning lettermen hoping to win the Middlesex League Championship and possibly to add another state title to Winchester's highly impressive list. The boys are very determined to win, for this is their "do or die" year. The Sachems have the ability, hustle, and spirit needed to go all the way. After playing together for the past three years on the high school, Junior Legion, and other town teams the boys have reached their peak.

Captain Haggerty, Bert Kneeland, and Quentin Roberts will be in the pastures again this year, while Joe Bellino will be catching the curves and fast balls thrown by either Renny Johnston, Terry Stowe, or John Chapin. Defensively in the diamond will be Henry Quill at the hot corner, Roger Symmes and Ronnie Roberts as the keystone combination, and Mike Callahan on first.

This lineup will be hard to beat for any team, and Coach Frank Provinzano is looking forward to a good year. Baseball is almost the only sport in which Winchester High School is lacking a recent championship, but the boys this year are raring to go for a victorious season.

Henry F. Quill Jr. is among the baseball team that won the Middlesex League championship. COURTESY PHOTO/WINCHESTER ARCHIVAL CENTER

And the rotary is actually named Henry F. Quill Jr. Circle.

According to "Winchester's Historic, Commemorative and Memorial Signs & Markers" by Eagle Scout Benjamin Eid — written in August 2013 and posted at Winchester History Online — Henry Francis Quill Jr. was born to Henry Sr. and Margaret Quill in Winchester on Aug. 10, 1937.

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A member of the Winchester High School's Class of 1956, Quill attended Winchester Public Schools. Quill played guard on the undefeated 1955 Winchester High School football team and third base on the baseball team that won the Middlesex League championship.

Quill attended Boston College and later Suffolk University Law School, graduating in 1961 and 1967, respectively.

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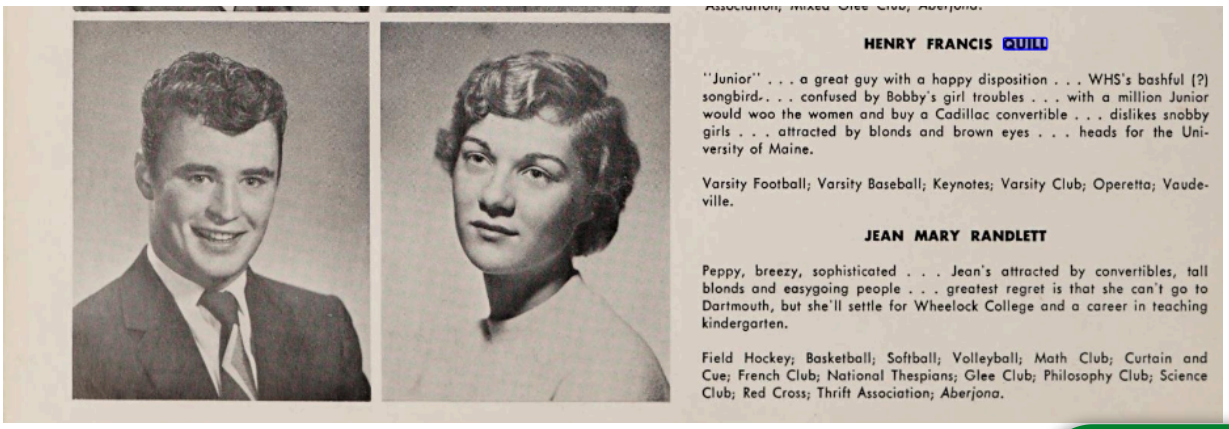
After law school, Quill went to work for the Cohen and Galvin law firm, where he specialized in probate affairs. After several years, Quinn came back to Winchester where he started Murray & Quill, P.C., with Lawrence Murray in 1971.

Quill and his wife, Elinor (Doherty), had seven children and were involved heavily in the community.

Quill served on the Park Board, as president of the Winchester Business Association (the Winchester Chamber of Commerce) and the Kiwanis Club, and as a director of the Baybank Winchester Trust Company. He also coached Little League baseball and girls soccer.



HENRY FRANCIS QUILL

"Junior" . . . a great guy with a happy disposition . . . WHS's bashful (?) songbird. . . . confused by Bobby's girl troubles . . . with a million Junior would woo the women and buy a Cadillac convertible . . . dislikes snobby girls . . . attracted by blonds and brown eyes . . . heads for the University of Maine.

Varsity Football; Varsity Baseball; Keynotes; Varsity Club; Operetta; Vaudeville.

JEAN MARY RANDLETT

Peppy, breezy, sophisticated . . . Jean's attracted by convertibles, tall blonds and easygoing people . . . greatest regret is that she can't go to Dartmouth, but she'll settle for Wheelock College and a career in teaching kindergarten.

Field Hockey; Basketball; Softball; Volleyball; Math Club; Curtain and Cue; French Club; National Thespians; Glee Club; Philosophy Club; Science Club; Red Cross; Thrift Association; *Aberjona*.

A look at Henry Francis Quill Jr.'s WHS yearbook. COURTESY PHOTO/WINCHESTER ARCHIVAL

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In 1972, Quill won the Outstanding Young Men of America Award, which was given each year to 8,000 men in America for outstanding service to their town and community.

Quill died on July 27, 1992, after suffering a heart attack while on vacation at Seabrook Beach in New Hampshire. He was 54.

In 1993, Spring Town Meeting voted to name the downtown rotary after Quill.

— *Information courtesy of the Winchester Archival Center.*

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The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

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Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

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Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester

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The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On

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High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
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Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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